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Senator Stennis said he hoped to have an early Committee meeting to clear up some matters of concern. I asked whether he planned a meeting of the Agency Subcommittee or the full Armed Services Committee and he said he hadn't decided. I asked if he wished to cover the significance of recent developments regarding the intelligence community and he said this might be a good idea, but he was also interested in a roundup briefing.

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15. [ ] JMM) Met with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, ~~Senate Armed Services Committee~~, and informed him of the above meeting with Senator Stennis and he said he hoped that, in explaining the new set up in the intelligence community, the Director would be more forthcoming than ~~Defense Department~~ representatives had been recently.

Mr. Braswell said he was concerned about the "legal authority" of the recent changes in the intelligence community ordered by the President. I said I thought this authority was implicit in the National Security Act. Braswell said he wasn't entirely satisfied with this and would like us to provide a legal opinion pointing out the specific provisions of the National Security Act that authorized the establishment of new committees and sub-committees, and personnel assignments, under the President's directive. He said he might have to go to the Attorney General on this. I said we would have a go at it also and let him know the results.

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16. [ ] JMM) Met with John Goldsmith, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, who said they would like copies of any Executive Orders or Directives concerning the new set up in the intelligence community. I said I had seen no such orders and doubted that any would be made public.

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